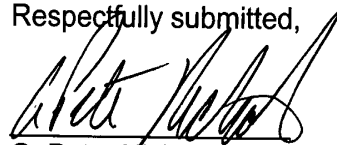


9378/190  
Preliminary Amendment

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to correct certain grammatical issues. If, for any reason, the Examiner needs to reach the undersigned attorney, I can be reached at (312) 321-4246.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Peter Nichols", written over a horizontal line.

G. Peter Nichols  
Reg. No. 34,401  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER  
GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610  
(312) 321-4200